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Gov. Blunt Applauds State Employees for Generosity through Charitable Campaign

JEFFERSON CITY—Gov. Matt Blunt today applauded state employees for their outstanding generosity and support of the 2008 Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign (MSECC) at a check presentation ceremony.

At the ceremony, Deputy Commissioner of Administration Rich Aubuchon announced that employee donations statewide totaled \$1,117,333, the second highest total in MSECC's 23 year history and a 7 percent increase over last year's total. Nineteen state agencies increased the amount of money they had raised over the previous year, and 17 agencies increased employee participation percentage.

"The generosity of Missouri's state employees has led to another successful charitable campaign," **Gov. Blunt** said. "More than 9,600 generous state employees gave over \$1.1 million to help charitable organizations across the state and around the globe serve others in need."

Over 9,600 state employees pledged donations to 1,177 charitable organizations through MSECC. The Department of Transportation, Missouri's fourth largest state agency, led the way by raising more than \$165,000, the highest single agency amount raised in the campaign's history. The Department of Corrections was close on MoDOT's heels, raising nearly \$150,000. For the second year in a row, employees in the Governor's Office had 100 percent participation.

Gayla McKinnie, MSECC manager, said the campaign is run by volunteers from every Missouri state agency. "Participation by state employees is due in large part to the awareness created by these volunteers," **McKinnie** said. "We couldn't be this successful without their creative ideas and input into the campaign."

During the past 23 years, state employees have donated more than \$19,581,000 to charitable organizations through MSECC. Through the campaign effort, 24 United Way chapters in Missouri will receive more than \$553,000. More than \$957,000 will be distributed to charitable organizations within Missouri, while the remaining funds will go to national and international charities.

The statewide charitable campaign gives employees an opportunity to donate to more than one thousand charitable organizations through payroll deduction or one-time donations. For more information about the charitable campaign, contact Gayla McKinnie at (573) 751-6846.